

REMARKS

A terminal disclaimer is attached hereto to overcome the double patenting rejection.

The Office Action rejects claims 5-7 over 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being “anticipated” by Allworden et al. in view of Colgrove et al., asserting that it would have been obvious to modify the Allworden et al. structure by adding the clutch structure of Colgrove et al. It is assumed that the Examiner intended to us 35 U.S.C. §103 instead of 35 U.S.C. §102(b).

New claims 5-7 have been amended by specifying that the actuator includes a hydraulic cylinder, something clearly not in the proposed combination of Allworden et al in view of Colgrove et al. Nor would such change to this proposed combination of references have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time this invention was made.

Regarding new claims 8 and 9, it is the movement of the actuator among a first, second and third position that accomplishes the reversing, not merely changing a gear box from forward to reverse as is proposed in the combination of Allworden et al. and Colgrove et al. For example in claim 8 the following structural relationships are recited:

“a first operating position (Fig. 5 & 5A) wherein the actuator is not connected to said first rotating shaft and the clutch is engaged with the driveline to transfer power from the driveline to the first rotating shaft;

a second position (Fig. 6 & 6A) wherein the actuator is connected to the said first rotating shaft and the clutch is operatively engaged with the first rotating shaft in a first rotary position of the first rotary shaft whereby the first rotary shaft is disengaged from the driveline whereby power is not transferred from the driveline to the first rotating shaft; and


a third position (Fig. 7 & 7A) wherein the actuator is operatively engaged with the first rotating shaft and the clutch is disengaged from the driveline whereby power is not transferred from the driveline to the first rotating shaft and the first rotating shaft has been moved to a second rotary position as the actuator moves from the second to the third position, said crop chopping roller being operatively attached to the first rotating shaft whereby the crop chopping roller is rotated in a direction opposite to the normal rotary operating direction as the actuator moves from the second to the third position.” (Emphasis and Fig. numbers added.)

In contrast, the Colgrove et al handle 90 is moved among a forward, neutral and reverse position to reverse the direction of the gearbox 12. The structure claimed in instant claims 8 and 9 uses the actuator to be operatively engaged with the first rotating shaft for reversing it, not merely for reversing a gearbox. In the Colgrove et al. structure, it is always the power from the driveline that turns the gearbox 12 (forwardly or in reverse), not power from the actuator that does the reversing.

Since remaining claims 5-9 are believed to be clearly allowable, a notice to that effect is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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